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**From:** Greene, Nikia [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=32A08A414A4F40199B557C0819EB7D0B-GREENE, NIKIA]  
**Sent:** 5/5/2015 3:07:46 PM  
**To:** Vranka, Joe; Elsen, Henry; Chergo, Jennifer; Sparks, Sara [sparks.sara@epa.gov]; DalSoglio, Julie [DalSoglio.Julie@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** FW: Public inquiry/response

FYI:

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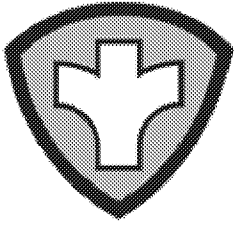
**From:** Sullivan, Karen [mailto:ksullivan@bsb.mt.gov]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 04, 2015 3:57 PM  
**To:** Greene, Nikia  
**Cc:** dwalsh@mt.gov; scoe@mt.gov; Powers, Dan; Riley, Paul; Burns, Stephan  
**Subject:** Public inquiry/response

Hi Nikia: I wanted to let you know that I and some members of my department's Environmental team met with Stephen Coe and Dan Walsh from DEQ last week to discuss John Ray's most recent email communication related to the Health Study/Phase 2 – the meeting was held at Stephen's request. I believe you also had some questions a day prior when we had the Health Study meeting with Atlantic Richfield. I think the DEQ meeting culminated in the philosophy that various agencies have some part in answering not only Dr. Ray's inquiries, but all general public inquiries. We certainly can meet at some point in the future on this, but for now, I thought I'd take the lead on answering the bottom portion of Dr. Ray's email, with questions related to cancer rates. We just received a report from the state of Montana about cancer; I haven't opened it yet but will take some time to review the findings. I have other data sources as well, related to cancer rates.

As you may know, a Montana Tech chemistry professor, Katie Hailer, presented a couple of weeks ago about her preliminary findings on how people living "downwind" of Montana Resources are affected by the open pit copper/molybdenum operation. A member of my staff, Paul Riley, attended the presentation and relayed that her data set is yet very small and therefore it's too early for her to present findings – Ms. Hailer apparently stated this herself, and said that much work is ahead. A presentation like hers, however, could lead to questions from Dr. Ray and others. So a collective agency approach might be the best way to go for inquiries coming our way.

Just wanted to give you a heads up, and let you know I'll be looking into some cancer data. A Community Health Needs Assessment conducted in Butte in 2014 – with both qualitative and quantitative input – shows Butte has no higher cancer rate than the rest of Montana or the country. But again I'll dig into the new state report and some other resources and try to report out to the people Dr. Ray emailed, in a step toward a collective, complete response. Let me know if you have any thoughts – hope you are doing well – Karen

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